

ECOLOGICAL AND COLLECTING NOTES

General Collecting:

An excellent place to collect is on top of mountains, especially if they are bare rocks such as Whiteface, McIntyre, Marcy and many others in New York State; the White Mountains in New Hampshire and Katahdin in Maine. The wind currents bring the insects to the top and they can be picked off the rocks where they are hanging on. Many beetles can be collected in this way, but most other insects too, even the deer bot that is supposed to be such a fast flier, can be picked up by hand.

Twigborers:

In the Spring many wood boring beetles may be collected by picking up the broken twigs and small limbs under trees and splitting them apart with a knife or small hatchet. Most of the beetles have pupated and are ready to come out and when an infested branch is found, the species will be found in goodly numbers. This is an excellent way of obtaining Anobiidae and the rarer Scolytidae, as well as their predators. Under white pines look for cones that did not mature and break them open, you will find Conophthorus coniperda Sz.

Ctenocera appressus Rand.:

This interesting species has been collected in numbers along the trails in the Adirondacks where the elevation is above 3500 feet and the sphagnum is common. The males sun themselves on the ferns growing in the sphagnum. The black females may be found by tearing apart the sphagnum. Females may be found marked like the males. The best time to collect these in June and a good place is along the Van Hoevenburg Trail to Mt. Marcy, N.Y., right after you leave the Indian Falls leanto.

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